Numismatic Literary Guild

POST OFFICE BOX 10039
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92711

January 19, 1968

Coin World
Sidney News Building
Sidney, Ohio-45365

Attn: Margo Russell

Dear Margo:

Thank you so much for your very kind letter. It is to be placed in my scrapbook as a treasured momento of a very wonderful assignment.....and most importantly of meeting wonderful people.

The stationery is the first ever used by the N.L.G. organization and I would like to use it to extend an invitation to you ,to join.

A rather rough notice is enclosed which will give the basics of the organization. It will be clarified as the actual function is clarified.

Basically, we hope to use N.L.G. as a clearing house for writers to exchange views and assist each other via research and contacts. The Guild will review books and articles and by ballot extend awards to those who merit recognition.

It is too early to know how extensive the organization will be but the aims will be clarified during the next few months. The A.N.A. convention would be a good meeting place for members to make their views known. As of this writing a number of eligible numismatists are being contacted but we will keep the number small until a nucleous is gathered for opinions and activities.

Two very unusual directions are being taken in the very beginning. NO DUES and NO NUMBERS will be involved. The logic behind the idea is that every member is equally important, no matter when the application was processed. The lack of dues is possible because we think we have a novel method of raising funds.(As explained in the mimeo sheet).

Please feel free to use this information in any manner you wish and any publicity involved will be appreciated.Although Ed McClung, Maurie Gould, Dottie Dow and I may have taken the

------See page two----

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the first step in forming this organization, it has been in the minds of many numismatists. A recent article by Dick Yeoman stressed the need of a parent Literary group and it touched all of us as we had been trying to lay just such a foundation for about six months.

Any suggestions you may have will be greatly appreciated as this is all very new to us. We do have a rather formidable photo coin library and a data filing concept that eliminates the need of an author knowing in advance the title of research material.(We destroy a lot of books and magazines but each article is filed under its topic.)

This announcement is of course exclusive to Coin World but in the next few days, other periodicals will be contacted. (I'm not betraying COINage, they just are not geared to organizational activities.).

As to the actual work of mailing material, answering mail, supplying photos and the general time consuming work involved; Ed McClung and his charming wife Doris have agreed to act as temporary Executive Secretary...two under one title..how about that?

I didn't mean to get long winded but I am so enthusiastic over this concept that I just had to take a few extra moments of your valuable time.

Very sincerely,

Lee Martin

Lee Martin-N.L.G.

P.S.-- I do hope fellow members will begin to use the N.L.G. after their by-lines.(Will the editors allow this????)

NUMISMATIC LITERARY GUILD.....WHY- WHEN- WHERE- WHAT- and HOW ?

WHY--- The formation of a Numismatic Literary Guild is motivated by the needs of the numismatic writer.

The Guild's aims are to assist the writer by research facilities, having a coin photo file available and to accord recognition for articles and manuscripts worthy of acclaim.

WHEN--- Although several functions of the Guild are in their infancy, an existing coin photo library has been donated to the organization. Reams of coin data are currently being filed to assist in his search for authenticity. Members may use such facilities immediately. A monthly newsletter will detail added services.

WHERE--- The Numismatic Literary Guild address is P.O. Box 10039-Santa Ana, California-92711.

WHAT--- Formed as a non- profit organization, the N.L.G. members consist of active numismatic writers,museum curators and aides, and associate members. The organization will include coin periodical ediors and publishers. The latter memberships will be extended so that members may be alerted to the needs of publications.

In addition to the special Board of recognition, which will select articles to be voted upon, the Board will assist in completing a numismatic library. The library for Guild members will differ from existing libraries in its availability to members and in its method of listing available data.All data will be filed by individual content, thus eliminating the need of knowing in advance the name of reference material.Requested material will be copied and forwarded to member without charge.Material may be retained by member.

WHO--- Membership in the Numismatic Literary Guild is by invitation only.Members may invite one member per year. Original membership shall be formed from selected individuals by a membership committee.No membership dues are involved. All N.L.G. memberships are lifetime and will be non-numerical.Metal cards suitably engraved will be issued members upon committee acceptance.

Associate memberships, renewable yearly, will be issued one family member of each regular N.L.G. applicant.Said associate member to be nominated by regular member in addition to the one invitation yearly available to each lifetime member.Other associate members will be invited by membership committee.This invitation is limited to non-writers who may assist N.L.G. and merit special consideration.

HOW--- Members may contribute autographed articles which have been printed and these will be sold. Revenue to aide in financing N.L.G. projects. The articles, etc. will be sold to individuals for private collections only. All publication rights remain with author and/or periodical which published it. Used magazines and books will also be sold for revenue to continue N.L.G. projects.

SUGGESTIONS ARE WELCOMED...Membership board...Dottie Dow,Maurice Gould, Lee Martin and executive Secretary...Ed. McClung

Numismatic Literary Guild

POST OFFICE BOX 10039
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92711

FROM

LEE MARTIN

February 22,1968

Coin World
Sidney, Ohio

Attn: Margo Russell

Dear Margo:

I am sorry I was unable to attend the last two days of the S.C.N.A. show but duty called.

The show was profitable for the Numismatic Literary Guild in many ways. It allowed us to interview all the editors and to get their views.All were most cooperative and from this encouraging beginning we discovered that other avenues for progress were available.

The membership committee agreed that each editor should receive 6 application blanks to extend to those the editor thinks would be an asset to N.L.G. and who would in turn benefit from such an organization.

I was visited by Dick and Barbara Hyde yesterday and we spent a few enjoyable hours together. Sure wish you were with them.Remember now, when the A.N.A. meeting hits,the Disneyland visit is on me!

Back to the N.L.G. story...please feel free to tell the numismatic world about us.Call me collect at 714 542-0944 if I can add any information to the release I sent you. We are going to go forward slowly and walk as lightly as possible but every journey has a starting point, so your release will be our initial talking point. Now that all the editors know about us I anticipate some additional data in print so if it makes it before you do, please forgive me.(I don't see how any of them can; all are monthly publications except the Numismatic News.)

This should also be another meeting place for editorial contacts as all the editors will be welcomed members.I am certain that we have not realized all the possibilities and probabilities but the future should be interesting.

Stay well, keep warm and be happy.....Lee

Lee

Copy To Margo

POST OFFICE BOX 10039
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92711

March 13, 1968

World Coins
Sidney News Bld'g
Sidney, Ohio

Dear Russ:

I can well understand your desire to know more about NLG as any information we have been able to send thus far has been rather sketchy. This was because we still had not been able to gather enough views from all sources to see what the general needs were. After the recent conventions in California, we feel that we are now in a position to elaborate.

Basically, NLG will be very much like the Society of Magazine Writers except that we hope to key it to numismatics. The primary function will be to assist in as ways as possible to create better coin articles, stories, books, etc.

Recognition will be given to coin data that has been carefully researched and written so that it is understandable.Other criteria will be clarified as judges composed of NLG members are selected. The awards will be given,once a year, and be limited to major coin periodicals.(Although the awards will be given to the BEST in each classification, the awardee does not necessarily have to belong to NLG.But we hope he does as those invited will be very special people in the coin hobby).

But awards for writing are not the only reasons for creating NLG for other fine organizations have been doing this for years. By issuing a monthly newsletter writers will be able to find the needs of coin publications.(Via editor interviews and editor letters to the NLG publication).This in turn should prove beneficial to all editors by giving them a quick source of specialists and contacts.

Not to be overlooked will be a negative file, available to all members. The file includes many rare coins and all of the common ones. The file is being expanded and should in time be a practical aide to coin photo hungry authors.A free photo coin service will be maintained as an extension of this service.

Hints for improving general articles will be in our newsletter but the exchange of ideas by writers and the quick contact of writers in need of collaborators will also be of use to all. The services will no doubt be expanded as the organization grows but these are the primary ideas behind NLG.

The Numismatic Literary Guild will be a non-profit organization and indeed should not involve any of its members in a cash cost of any kind. We believe the financing can be done in a rather unique manner.

If members will donate original manuscripts, with corrections and first thoughts intact and autograph them, the numismatic public would undoubtedly be happy to buy them. We are NOT offering the manuscripts for sale to publishers but only for private collections. All copyrights would be maintained by the author or publisher involved in the purchase of the article.

It has also been suggested that added revenue would accrue by the sale of used books and coin periodicals. This may be another avenue to be traversed once financing becomes imperative.

But all this is the background. Throughout this letter I have been using the term "WE" and perhaps you are wondering just who we are and what function we serve.

I am Lee Martin, associated officially with COINage but in the NLG capacity, merely someone who truly would like to see a group of coin people advance our hobby. I hold no official office in NLG, other than the membership committee.This is, of course, only a temporary position to be retained until the membership decides how NLG shall be organized.

Dottie Dow, Maurice Gould and Ed McClung are others on the membership group. I am certain you know who the first two are. Mr McClung is someone who loves numismatics and is a third generation coin collector. He and his wife have agreed to act as temporary Executive Secretary and handle the heavy writing contact work that will be involved. Maurice and I will start the newsletter and in time be replaced by others in the group. No salaries or pay of any kind is involved.

We have received enthusiastic..or at least general approval, and those already in the fold are Dick & Barbara Hyde,Cliff Mishler,Clem Bailey,Mort Goodman, Melvin Fuld,Ray Manville, Mathew van der Voort, Arlie Slabaugh, Lee Hewitt, Jim Miller,Cale Jarvis and others who are still before the membership committee with their applications. Of course Maurice, Dottie and I are also in the organization.

We feel that too many clubs are already drawing dues from our members so there are no dues involved. Because of this all who join NLG will be life members and they will receive a permanent card.(Metal). Members of the writers family,one per member, will be accepted as associate members and this will be a yearly renewable card.

Each member will be invited to submit one additional membership referral per year. Editors will receive 6 initial application cards and then be asked to follow the one a year theme. We hope to keep the original group small, with no more than 100-150 in NLG.

Because so many of our members belong to the A.N.A., we hope to hold a meeting in August to discuss NLG in depth.

This touches on the Guild but I am sure will not answer all questions. Contact me at your convenience.I think Margo may also wish to see this letter, so won't you forward it to her?

Numismatically yours, Lee Martin

May 15, 1968

Dear Margo:

IT is my privilege to welcome you To the NUMISMATIC LITERARY GUILD.

Your application was UNANIMOUSLY accepted by the membership board, (may I add with great enthusiasm.)

The enclosed plastic lifetime card is a desk card and the photo card is for portability.

Our June dated newsletter is being prepared and we would welcome your views. Criticism is looked upon with favor. (How else can the organization reflect the Guild members views!)... Looking forward to seeing you at the A.N.A. convention

Sincerely
—Lee Martin

Numismatic Literary Guild

news

JUN 12 1961

PUBLIC RELATIONS
NUMISMATIC LITERARY GUILD

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

NUMISMATIC LITERARY GUILD MAKES DEBUT

The Numismatic Literary Guild, a non-profit organization devoted to the mutual exchange of ideas and activities of a literary nature, was formed recently to promote professional journalism in the field of numsimatics. The highly select group numbers among its membership the outstanding writers, editors, publishers and museum curators in numismatics today.

Beginning with a mutual inspriation expressed by Ed McClung, Lee Martin Dottie Dow and Maurice Gould, the organization has taken some giant strides in the past several months by stabilizing the publication of a monthly NLG Numismatic Newsletter, the establishemnt of a Charter Membership of 50 members, initiation of a photographic negative file for use by the membership, b, established writers. The manuscripts will be used to defray organization expenses. The NLG operates without membership dues, and funds will be obtained from organizational activities and the direct support of the members.

Another primary function of the new organization is to publicly acknowledge the exceptional literary contributions to numsiamtics of members and non-members alike by awarding Certificates of Merit and Literary Awards and Trophies. These awards in time will come to have the stamp of high quality and recipients will be named by panels composed of the nations key numismatic literary figures.

For further information:

(more)

The latest issues of the NLG Numismatic Newsletter highlight information of particular interest to the professional numismatic writer; "A Few Tips From Writers ....", "The Writer's Library", "Photographic Sources", "How To Mail A Manuscript", and bargains and tips in books from such places as the Publishers Central Bureau, Canadian author Jerome Remick, and book companies that publish material especially for writers. Of timely interest are articles by Charles Hoskins, Director of National Bank of Detroit's Money Museum, and syndicated columnist Maurice Gould who is so well known among numismatists he no longer needs an introduction to anyone even remotely connected with coin collecting.

Present operating posts for the Numismatic Literary Guild are held by Mr. Ed McClung as Publisher and Executive Secretary, Newsletter Editors Lee Martin and Maurice Gould, and Thomas Becker, Director of NLG Public Relations.

The Numismatic Literary Guild will hold its first organizational meeting during the national convention of the American Numismatic Association in San Diego during August. NLG members should consult the convention program for time and place.

Requests for further information should be addressed to either of the following: Le Martin, P. O. Box 10039, Santa Ana, California 92711, or to Thomas Becker, Money Museum, National Bank of Detroit, Detroit 48232.

numismatic literary guild

July 12, 1968

Hello From NLG:

It has been several weeks since the first announcement of the Numismatic Literary Guild photo exhibit was made. The numismatic press has picked up the story and expectations are running high as convention time draws near. I am certain you will agree that this exciting event promises to be a distinct highlight of the San Diego convention.

Exhibit space has been obtained at the El Cortez Hotel and lobby announcement posters designed and completed for calling attention to the exhibit. Your photos will be mounted on attractive display boards where the general public can do a little "sidewalk criticizing" on their own. In addition, four highly qualified exhibit judges have been appointed and are standing by for a most challenging experience in deciding what the phrase "photographic quality" really means.

At this particular time when your own staff photographer is preparing his layout, there may be some questions you would like answered about the entry rules or about the exhibit itself. I will be happy to have your inquiry or supply any needed information to help make your entry as successful as possible.

Numismatics may be our product, but people are our business. The community looks to you for setting the tone in the numismatic field. I feel you will want to put your best foot forward by representing your company at this first photo exhibition. May I close by wishing you every possible success. We of the NLG will be working hard to help you achieve your goal.

Cordially yours,

Thomas W. Becker

Thomas W. Becker
NLG Public Relations

news

PUBLIC RELATIONS
NUMISMATIC LITERARY GUILD

FOR RELEASE:

The Numismatic Literary Guild held its founding meeting at the recent 77th Annual Convention of the American Numismatic Association in San Diego. On hand for the proceedings were the top numismatic writers, publishers and museum curators to take part in the final stages of establishing By-laws and the governing body of the organization.

Temporary Chairman Thomas Becker, Editor of Krause Publications' COINS Magazine, convened the meeting and named an interim committee of five to act for the NLG in creating a fixed slate of officers and to establish membership qualifications. Appointed to the committee were James Miller, Editorial Director and Lee Martin, Advertising Director, both of COINage Magazine; Cale B. Jarvis, Publisher of Canada's Coin, Stamp & Antique News; syndicated columnist Maurice Gould of Sepulveda, Calif.; and Gordon Green of Galaxie Trophy Company, El Monte, California.

A featured attraction at the Convention was the NLG-sponsored Photographic Competition. Five numismatic agencies participated in the exhibit-contest by submitting ten salon-type mounted photos with numismatic themes, in black and white medium.

First place award went to The Franklin Mint of Yeadon, Penn., for their entry "The Final Touch" which depicted a die engraver making the last touch up on a medallic die. Second and Third place awards both were presented to Krause Publications of Iola, Wisconsin

for "El Dorado", a frontier pistol surrounded by commemorative half dollars relating to the California and the West, and for "Geometry Of Progress", a felt material and commemorative half dollar layout that signified the importance of California as a progressive State.

Present to receive the awards were Franklin Mint journalist Arlie Slabaugh, and for Krause Publications, Numismatic Editor Cliff Mishler and columnist Clem Bailey accepted the 2nd and 3rd place award plaques.

Russell Rulau, Editor of The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine, and Margo Russell, Editor of Coin World newspaper, both of the Sydney News Syndicate of Sydney, Ohio, acted as photographer and secretary for the meeting respectively.

Membership in the Guild has been temporarily suspended in order to establish the organization's governmental and membership structure. The Guild's official publication, the Numismatic Newsletter, under the direction of its editor Lee Martin, will carry news of importance to the membership and act as the vehicle for circulating information regarding action by the Interim Committee. The Newsletter is published monthly at Encino, California.

March 4, 1969

Mr. Lee Martin
Post Office Box 10039
Santa Ana, California 92711

Dear Lee:

Your ears should have burned when John Baker asked me about you the other day! I told him that anybody who could get help from Lee Martin was indeed blessed and fortunate!

The dear little doll mitten bookmark which came in the mail today was a bright spot, and so clever. It also reminded me that for several months I have wanted to write to you.

I want to go with a story on Numismatic Literary Guild, and use the art (winning numismatic pictures from San Diego) we have had in type all this time. I will use material from the Numismatic Newsletters--so excellent it's a shame they are limited to such a select few.

Is there anything special you want to mention in this round-up feature?

May I sponsor John Baker as a member since he is a prolific writer for the 99'ers?

Here is a photo of the Charlotte Mint in response to "Can You Help?" I'll see about the other wants, too.

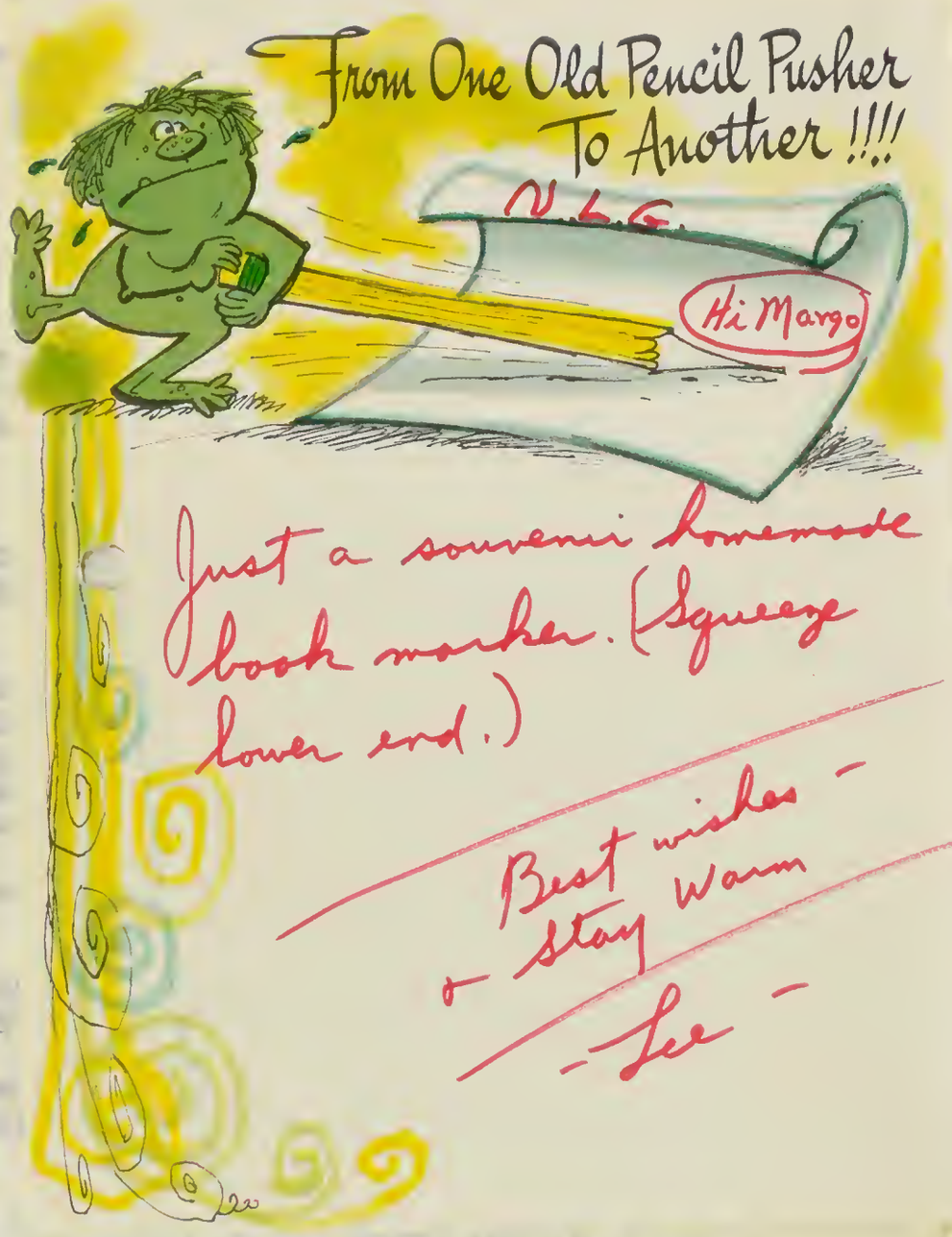
Here is my check for $10--it's a good thing your clarification came along to remind me.

We are so involved in producing a weekly Coin World, that it is difficult to see"the forest for the trees." But, if you can think of some angle that might be interesting from me, I'll be pleased to write it for the Newsletter. Just assign it to me, Chief!

Sincerely,

COIN WORLD

Margo Russell, Editor



Just a souvenir homemade book marker. (Squeeze lower end.)

Best wishes -
- Stay Warm
- Lee -

N.L.G.

A belated message to Mrs. Marion Margo Russell...the paper is ornate but I hope the message is one of simplicity..and thanks.

Dear Margo:

I received your letter 10 days ago and it has taken me all this time to tell you how much I appreciate hearing from you and to tell you that the Numismatic Literary Guild will certainly feel the same .. and how nice it will be to see its story in Coin World.

You asked if any special data should be included and I do have one very important problem that can be solved by publicity. We have tried to raise funds by a mail bid of donated literary material. Thus far no bids have been received because little has been in publications. The NLG Treasury is very light and this could be of material assistance. A listing was in a recent(2 issues ago) newsletter.

Thank you,(It seems I am saying that a lot, but it is based on your kindness and spirit of cooperativeness.),for the Charlotte Mint photo.Of course anything you care to write for the newsletter would be welcomed but I know our members would enjoy an insight into an editors problems.Do you encourage"outside" writers to contribute to Coin World? The newsletter has not been very effective because it has not been used as a point of contact between members therefore your views would add much to this area.

Did you know several seers use the circulation figures of Coin World for optimistic views on the market? It appears to work for we are in the midst of a rising market and I see rising numbers in that all important first page data. Now here is a scoop for you! CCINage,actually Behn Miller, is placing a second coin magazine on the newsstands. It will be a quarterly and arrive in June. The name is Coin Mart,(not named after me.)

Oh yes, I thank you..there I go again, for the kind words to John Baker. Coin Mart will prevent me from helping him very much but I will help if possible. I have forwarded an application to him.

Very cordially,

Lee

Lee Martin,N.L.G.